

MAY NEVER SOLVE UNCANNY TRAGEDY

Little Hope of Penetrating Mystery of O'cey Snead's Death.

FINAL CHAPTER ABOUT TO BEGIN

To-Morrow Aged Mother and Aunt of Bath-Tub Victim Will Be Placed on Trial for Murder—Third Defendant Cheated Justice by Starving Herself to Death.

Principals in the Snead Murder Case

Mrs. O'cey W. Snead, twenty-four years old, the mother of the victim, who was found dead in the bathtub of a house in East Orange, N. J., Miss Virginia Wardlaw, aged thirty-seven, the sister-in-law of the victim, who, it is believed, held the key to the mystery, she was placed under arrest the day after the murder, and committed suicide in the House of Detention, at Newark, on August 11, 1910, by starving herself to death.

Mrs. Charlotte B. Martin, aged sixty-five, mother of the victim, who was placed under arrest December 15, 1909, on the charge of complicity in connection with her daughter's death, and will be placed on trial to-morrow.

Miss Mary Snead, mother-in-law of O'cey Snead and the third Wardlaw sister, who was placed under arrest December 16 in connection with the death of her daughter-in-law, she will also come up for trial to-morrow.

John Snead, husband of the victim, who disappeared several months before his wife's death, but was later found working in a hotel in St. Louis, Mo., he refused to return to the United States, despite the predilection of his mother and aunt.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.] Newark, N. J., January 8.—What two feeble old women, thin and emaciated from their long period of imprisonment, are led, tottering, into the court room here Tuesday and placed on trial for their lives, it will mark the beginning of the final chapter of one of the most mysterious and uncanny tragedies in the criminal annals of the East.

The two aged prisoners, Mrs. Charlotte B. Martin, aged sixty-five, and Mrs. Mary Snead, aged sixty, are sisters, and are charged with complicity in the murder of O'cey W. Snead, their daughter and daughter-in-law, who was found drowned in a bath tub in a house in East Orange, N. J., over a year ago.

Still Impenetrable. The heavy veil of mystery which has shrouded the tragedy and its principal actors since its beginning, remains as impenetrable as ever, and it is not believed that the trial will go far towards clearing it up.

The only person believed to have been cognizant with the tragic end of O'cey Snead was Miss Virginia Wardlaw, sister-in-law of the victim, and sister of the two prisoners, who starved herself to death in the Newark prison last summer. She was the only one in the house with O'cey Snead when she met her death, and was the first to be placed under arrest. The authorities alleged that she exercised a hypnotic influence over the girl, and compelled her to end her own life. They hoped to prove that the three old women had planned the death of the young girl in order to secure the \$10,000 life insurance money, and relieve their straitened financial circumstances. According to Miss Wardlaw's testimony at the inquest, she had filled the bath tub with water for her niece to take a bath, and then she had gone down stairs and remained there for twenty-four hours, while she knew her niece was sick and helpless on the floor above. When she went upstairs again, she found the body of the girl in the bath tub, with a note pinned to her nightgown, saying that she had committed suicide.

Miss Wardlaw's death, however, removes the possibility of extracting any information from this source, and greatly weakens the prosecution. Unless the unexpected happens at the trial, O'cey Snead's death will remain as much a mystery as ever.

The prosecution, however, bases its hopes on the suicide notes, which were found among Mrs. Martin's effects when she was placed under arrest two weeks after the murder. These notes are almost identical with the one found pinned to the young girl's night dress. The unusual amount of insurance taken out on the victim's life, and the fact that the three old women were named as beneficiaries in the policies, is another link in the chain of circumstantial evidence.

What the defense will say is a mystery. It was claimed for a time that Mrs. Martin was insane, but after a lengthy hearing during which many witnesses were brought from different parts of the country Judge Ten Eyck declined to hear any more evidence. All were well educated, and after several years' experience at teaching, Miss Virginia Wardlaw, the youngest of the three aged sisters, was members of a poor but aristocratic Southern family, their father being an eminent Methodist preacher in Georgia. All were well educated, and after several years' experience at teaching, Miss Virginia Wardlaw, the youngest of the three aged sisters, was members of a poor but aristocratic Southern family, their father being an eminent Methodist preacher in Georgia.

(Continued on Second Page.)

CHICAGO STORM-SWEPT

Wind Attains Velocity of Sixty Miles an Hour.

Chicago, Ill., January 8.—One man was killed, one other fatally hurt, and much damage was done to electric signs and windows to-day by a wind storm. The wind, which came from the west, gained in velocity until a sixty-mile gale was blowing. The wind kept its high point for some time, dropping at night to a velocity of forty miles an hour, which weather bureau officials said would be maintained until morning. The wind was accompanied by a drop in temperature, the thermometer falling from forty degrees above to a low of sixteen degrees below at nightfall. A further drop to ten degrees was predicted.

A large iron sign, protruding from the third floor of a building in Halsted Street, was torn from its fastenings, on its drop to the street, the sign caught a smaller sign and both fell with a crash. An unidentified man was caught under the larger sign and instantly killed. Michael Morarty was struck by the smaller sign. His skull was fractured, and he suffered other injuries, which may prove fatal. Several others had narrow escapes.

An electric sign at the Blackstone Theatre was thrown to the ground, breaking a number of windows and slightly injuring several people.

NO NEWS OF FLEET

It Was Defeated in Mantic Attack on Coast.

Boston, Mass., January 8.—Since the news of the victory of the defending fleet over the returning North Atlantic squadron, which made a mantic attack on the coast, altered through the air yesterday, no information has been received as to the whereabouts of the vessels of the fleet. Defeated in the attempt to pass the line of ships defending vessels, the North Atlantic fleet of sixteen battleships is understood to have continued on its way to Guantanamo, Cuba, its official rendezvous. It is believed that the fleet is en route with the line of ships, the nature of these later evolutions is not known.

The North Atlantic squadron sailed from England on December 30. Its schedule calls for arrival at Guantanamo, Jan. 10. An average speed of 25 miles a day is necessary to fulfill it. It is believed the invaders were intercepted about in mid-ocean by the defending vessels, which were the battleships Tennessee, Montana, North Carolina and Washington, the scout cruisers Raleigh, Birmingham, and the torpedo boats Smith, Kinkaid, Reid, Lamson and Preston.

RESCUED AT SEA

Workman Had Been Carried Aboard in Small Boat.

Pensacola, Fla., January 8.—Almost exhausted from hunger and exposure, the result of being buffeted about at sea in a small rowboat, John Dougherty, engaged in work on the extension of the Florida East Coast Railway, near Sand Key, was brought here tonight on the Dutch steamer Dordrecht. Dougherty was picked up by the steamer last Thursday. According to his story, he was trying to cross a small channel, when one of his oars broke. He was unable to make any progress against the tide, and was carried to sea before he could attract the attention of his fellow workmen. After twenty-four hours he gave up hope of rescue, but the next morning he sighted the big steamer heaving down upon him, and his rescue quickly followed.

CHURCH GETS \$365,000

Mrs. Penbody Also Gives \$150,000 for Episcopal Work—Residue to Cathedral.

Dedham, Mass., January 8.—All Saints' Protestant Episcopal Church, of Dorchester, receives \$365,000 under the will of Mrs. Mary Lathrop Penbody, of Milton, widow of Colonel Oliver Penbody. The will was filed in the office of the Norfolk county Register of Probate.

ONLY WOMEN CAN VOTE

Men of Ohio District All Disfranchised for Selling Ballots.

West Union, Ohio, January 8.—Following the wholesale indictments for selling of votes in the county, every man elector in Blount School District has been disfranchised, and only women are qualified to vote at the next election for school trustees, and only women will be eligible to hold the office of trustee.

POISONED FLOUR KILLS SIX

Many in Village Ill After Eating Bread Made From It.

Telfer, Texas, January 8.—Six deaths have occurred and many residents of this Victoria county village are ill as a result of eating bread made from flour which was chemically analyzed and found to contain arsenic.

TOWN BITTER AGAINST CLERIC

Charged as Wife Deserter and Bigamist; Lodged in Jail for Safety.

New Orleans, January 8.—The Rev. Clyde L. Doyle, wanted at Amite, La., on a charge of wife desertion, bigamy and embezzlement, was brought from Taylor, Texas, and placed in jail in this city.

Dr. Darwin Colvin Dead.

Syracuse, N. Y., January 8.—Dr. Darwin Colvin, who performed the first successful transplanting operation in this country, died at his home in this city, today, aged eighty-eight years. Dr. Colvin was one of the most prominent physicians in Northern New York.

COUNTRY IS FREE TO FORTIFY CANAL

It Would Be No Contravention of Hay-Pauncote Treaty.

RIGHT RESERVED, SAYS FORAKER

Former Senator Writes Letter to Taft in Which He Reviews Treaty History—Advised With John Hay While Negotiations Were Under Way.

Washington, D. C., January 8.—A contribution designed to clarify the confused situation which has arisen over the question of the right of the United States to fortify the Panama Canal, was submitted to-day by former Senator Foraker, of Ohio, to President Taft, who made it public.

Throughout the period during which the Hay-Pauncote treaty was negotiated and ratified by both the United States and Great Britain, Senator Foraker, after advised with John Hay, then Secretary of State, and made many of the suggestions which were incorporated in the treaty, preserving to this government the right to take such action as it deemed necessary to protect the canal property and shipping without specifically authorizing fortifications.

SENATE'S ACTS REVIEWED.

Senator Foraker's letter to President Taft, which is made public, apparently because it undertakes to discuss the question of the right of this government to construct such fortifications as it may deem necessary for the protection of the canal property, reveals the fact that the Senate in 1904, in connection with treaty-making with England and laws passed subsequent to the ratification of the existing Hay-Pauncote treaty. The letter tells of the ratification of a treaty by the Senate December 20, 1904, which was rejected by the British Government. When that treaty was presented to the Senate, it contained a provision against fortification of the canal and there was a great deal of criticism of Secretary Hay on account of that fact.

A JURY OF WOMEN

Suffragists Will Pass Judgment on Accused Slater.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.] Seattle, Wash., January 8.—Six of the most prominent suffragettes in the city, representative alike in social and political life, have been selected to sit on a jury to pass judgment on the case of a woman jury in Washington. The jury will sit on the case of a woman jury in Washington. The jury will sit on the case of a woman jury in Washington.

CAVALIERI MISSING

No One Seems to Know What Has Become of Singer.

New York, January 8.—The mysterious disappearance of Lina Cavalieri, one of the principal topics of Parisian gossip, according to G. P. Cernant, director of the French line, is one of the principal topics of Parisian gossip. According to G. P. Cernant, director of the French line, is one of the principal topics of Parisian gossip.

HE LOVED AND LOST

Young Art Student Dies in Hospital of Morphine Poisoning.

New York, January 8.—Unhappy over a love affair, Charles A. Hughes, a young artist, died in a hospital of morphine poisoning. He was taken to the institution from a boarding house last night, charged with attempted suicide. A man who said he was William E. Hughes, Jr., a Lieutenant in the Signal Corps, U. S. Army, said he had been at the hospital to-night and asked for a young man's clothes. He was told that it had been turned over to the coroner.

Unpleasant Weather Is Headed This Way

Washington, D. C., January 8.—A cold, marked severity that now prevails over the Northwest, and over the Northwestern States Monday and Tuesday, from which region it will advance eastward and southward over the Middle West during the middle of the week, according to the Weather Bureau's prediction. Abnormally low temperatures will attend this cold wave in the North Pacific States, the Northern plains and Rocky Mountain regions and practically all districts east thereof.

SEEKS REPARATION

Government in Suing Lumber Companies for \$332,026.35.

Fort Smith, Ark., January 8.—Reparation amounting to \$332,026.35 is sought by the United States government against the lumber companies and individuals in civil action to be called for trial to-morrow before Judge John F. Rogers in the United States District Court here. The defendants, it is alleged, misappropriated 10,644,166 feet of lumber from lands in Western Arkansas. Rulings of the court are expected to establish precedents with regard to the construction to be placed on the homestead laws, which are involved.

WILL NEVER KNOW CAUSE

Molsant's Machine in Perfect Shape When He Made Flight.

New York, January 8.—Four of the international aviators who were with Molsant at New Orleans when he fell to his death have sent to the Associated Press a signed statement of their findings in an examination of his machine, made on the spot immediately after the accident. According to the statement, Molsant's machine was in perfect shape when he made his flight. The machine was in perfect shape when he made his flight.

WILL HAVE NO TIME TO STUDY BUDGET

Lorimer Case Threatens to Take Attention of Senate.

IT MAY OCCUPY REST OF SESSION

FIGHT WILL START TO-DAY, EITHER BEVERIDGE OR OWEN LEADING ATTACK AGAINST RETENTION OF SEAT BY ILLINOIS MAN—MAY DISRUPT TAFT'S LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM.

Washington, D. C., January 8.—Senators interested in getting to work on appropriation bills which have passed the House are beginning to fear that consideration of the Lorimer case may prevent them from giving to the budget measures the careful study and deliberation which they believe the bill merits. The indications are that the Lorimer case may consume in the Senate a major portion of all the time that remains of the present session.

WILL SUCCEED HIS FATHER

Davis Elkins Will Be Appointed to Senate by Governor Glasscock.

Charleston, W. Va., January 8.—Governor Glasscock to-night announced that he would appoint Davis Elkins to succeed the late Senator Elkins, his father.

TORTURED BEFORE DEATH

Endless Efforts to Force Woman to Give Up Her Money.

Providence, R. I., January 8.—Indications that Mrs. Minnie E. Nichols, a woman who was found in her little store last night, was tortured before death, were given at the autopsy held to-day by Medical Examiner Connelley. It was first thought the defenseless woman was killed by a blow which she had received from a man, but closer examination showed that she was stabbed and strangled with some four-pronged instrument. The medical examiner decided, however, that the real cause of death was the blood poisoning which was found in the woman's system. It was found that she had been suffering from a disease of the blood for some time before her death.

CLAIMS TO BE PROFESSOR

Found With Coat in Flames and Revolver in Hand.

Chester, Pa., January 8.—Lying on the sidewalk with the front of his coat on fire and a revolver in his hand, a man who claims to be Leroy Smith, a man who claims to be a professor in Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, was discovered here by a policeman to-day. At the hospital, where he was taken, he was found with a man who had been brought to the hospital about two months ago suffering from laudanum poisoning. Except for a slight burn on the body the man is uninjured. He will be held in a hearing on the charge of attempting suicide.

DRASTIC LIQUOR LAW

Only Punishment for Violation Is Term of Imprisonment.

Oklahoma City, Okla., January 8.—Governor Haskell sent a message to the Legislature to-day, making no recommendations, and devoting his address to a review of the workings of the bank guaranty law. The Governor said that the bank guaranty law, which was passed in 1908, had been successful in securing the payment of the bank guaranty fund, which was \$1,814,552.71.

HELL TO END COAL LAND CASE

House Plan to Throw Cunningham Claims into Court Is Revealed.

Washington, January 8.—A plan to dispose of the coal land claims of the House by throwing them into court has become known through the disclosure of the plan by its promoters. Representative Mondell, of Wyoming, introduced in the House last session a bill providing that claimants in land cases before the Department of the Interior might go to the Court of Appeals of the District of Columbia. The bill provided that the Department of the Interior might go to the Court of Appeals of the District of Columbia. The bill provided that the Department of the Interior might go to the Court of Appeals of the District of Columbia.

HELD BY REBELS

Island of Ruman Has Fallen Into Their Hands.

Washington, D. C., January 8.—The island of Ruman, off the coast of Honduras, is held by the Honduran revolutionaries, according to cable advice received at the State Department today from American Consul Dawson, at Puerto Cortes. The United States government is estimating the number of Honduran revolutionaries at about 1,000. The Honduran revolutionaries are estimated to be about 1,000. The Honduran revolutionaries are estimated to be about 1,000.

TEN YEARS FOR MAIL THIEF

Man Sentenced at Cleveland Has Spent Over Half His Life in Jail.

Cleveland, January 8.—Nicholas Helm, aged forty-five years, arrested last August at Akron on a charge of stealing mail pouches, and suspected by the government inspectors to be the head of a gang operating throughout the country, was sentenced to ten years in Federal prison at Leavenworth, Kan. He pleaded guilty.

COURT ON TRAIN FOR NEGRO

Suspected Assassin of G. B. Bound Over While Being Taken to Jail.

Shelbyville, Ky., January 8.—Dick Bentley, a negro suspected of attacking Miss Ethel White at Lawrenceburg, Ky., last Monday, had a court hearing on a charge of kidnapping while being taken to the Louisville jail for safekeeping. He was bound over to the grand jury for a charge of kidnapping. He was bound over to the grand jury for a charge of kidnapping.

BRANDED AS TRAITOR

Haitian Government Refuses to Permit General Firmin to Land.

Port-au-Prince, Haiti, January 8.—There have been considerable military movements since Friday, on account of the announcement that General Firmin, the former Haitian minister of Great Britain, would arrive here on the French steamer Montreal. General Firmin left his post without leave and arrived recently at St. Thomas, Danish West Indies. The Haitian government, fearing that he intended to begin a movement against the administration, and branding him as a traitor to his duties, issued orders that he be not permitted to land on Haitian soil. Troops were sent out to guard the coast to prevent General Firmin from coming ashore. A steamer arrived this morning, but no communication was permitted. Later an abandoned ship yawl was found on the roadside, which caused great excitement for it was believed that Firmin had succeeded in landing somewhere along the coast. It was ascertained, however, that he was still aboard the Montreal, which sailed this afternoon for Port-au-Prince. General Firmin, it is understood, made the declaration that his visit had no political significance, but that he was merely taking a voyage on account of ill health.

NO WINNER PICKED IN NEW YORK FIGHT

Leaders Still Have Week Before Caucus on Senatorship.

ALBANY, N. Y., January 8.—Few supporters of the candidates for the United States senatorship who remained here over the legislative recess so far as to assert that the man they favor has a sure lead. The senatorial situation remains about as it was at the end of last week, when Charles F. Murphy, the Tammany Hall leader, and Edward M. Shepard and William F. Sheehan, the two candidates who have been making the most active open campaigns, returned to New York. The leaders still have a week before the Democratic legislators caucus on the senatorship, and to-night Democratic members of both houses consider that thus far the leaders have reached no decision.

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